

BADGER STATE

Smoke Signals

For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

Published Monthly Since 1969 • Our 21st Year • Single Copy: \$1

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Vol. 21 No. 10 - 250th Consecutive Monthly Issue - Baraboo, Wisconsin - October 1990

Worked All States - License Plates



On a trip to South Dakota this summer, Dennis Schultz, KA9NUG, of Pardeeville, Wisconsin, visited a license plate collectors' convention. Among the interesting plates seen were Amateur Radio plates. This photo shows Vern Dameron's (K1DRN) collection, with one ham plate from each state. Dennis tells more, starting on page 6 on this issue.

- Photo Courtesy Vern Dameron/K1DRN

FCC Acts in 20-Meter Disputes

The Federal Communications Commission has issued three Notices of Apparent Liability to Monetary Forfeiture to radio amateurs involved in confrontations on 20 meters.

On Aug. 27, FCC sent letters to Richard K. Eastman, N5FX, Herbert Schoenbohm, KV4FZ, and William Terrill, K2BFL. Eastman and Schoenbohm were cited for operations on July 16, Terrill for FCC observations on Aug. 17. All were told, "You appear to be in willful violation of Section 97.101(d) of FCC Rules and Regulations, in that you operated your amateur radio station in a manner that resulted in willful interference to radio communications of other radio amateur stations."

The notices are for apparent liability to a monetary forfeiture of \$1,000. The three have 30 days to respond to the letters.

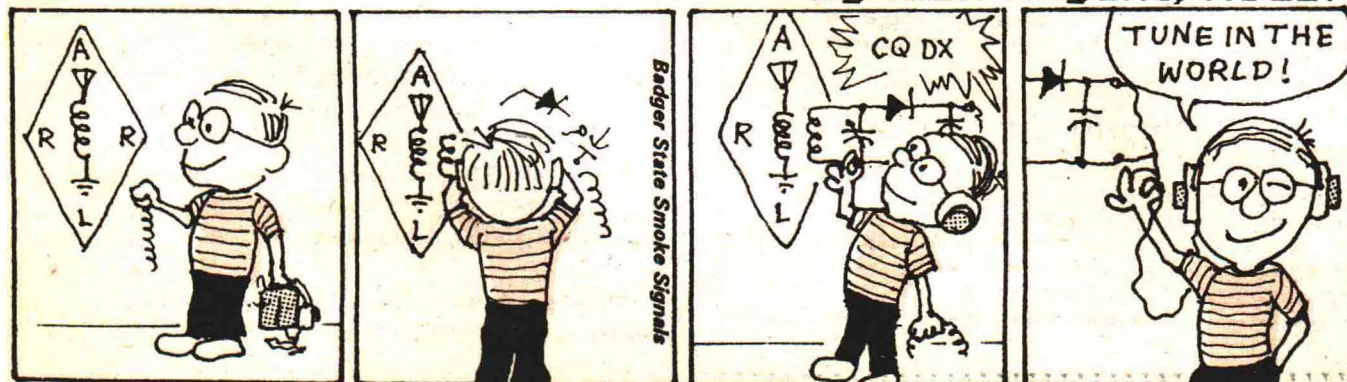
- The ARRL Letter, 9/7/90

Tomah Flood Brings Amateur Radio Help

Story on page 5

ELMER

by Rich Regent, K9GDF



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Swapfests and other Social Events

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1990. FALLFEST 90 sponsored by the Green Bay Mike & Key Club., at the Green Bay Community Center. Contact Green Bay Mike & Key club, P.O. Box 13351, Green Bay, WI 54307. (414) 432-3491.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1990. Kettle Moraine Radio amateurs Computer and Ham Radio Swapfest. At the Waukesha County Exposition Center, Highways J and FT in Waukesha, WI. Contact KMRA Swapfest, P.O. Box 276, Waukesha, WI 53187. (see also their ad in this issue of BSSS)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1990. Hamfest Minnesota & Computer Expo. at Hennepin Technical College, 9000 Brooklyn Blvd. No. of I-694 & Highway 169, (previously Cty. Rd. 18) Brooklyn Park, MN. Seminars, Speakers, Amateur Exams, Flea market, etc. Contact: Hamfest Minnesota & Computer Expo, Box 5598, Hopkins, MN 55343. (612) 474-1529.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1990. Fox Cities ARC Hamfest at the Starlite Club, Rte. 1, Kaukauna, WI. For table reservations contact Don Baker, 621 W. 7th St., Kaukauna, WI. (414) 766-3886).

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1990. The Milwaukee Repeater Club sponsors the 6th annual "6.91 Friendly Fest" from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Serb Hall, 51st & Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee, WI. Selling halls are on the ground floor with easy access. Tickets \$4.00. Table \$5.00 On-site Amateur Exams. Contact Milwaukee Repeater Club, P.O. Box 2132, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 11, 1990. Riverland Amateur Radio Club Hamfest and Shopping Spree, at the La Crosse Valley View Mall. Admission \$1.00, Tables

\$2.00. (See ad elsewhere this issue for more details)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1991. WARAC Midwinter Swapfest, Waukesha, WI

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 1991. MARA Swapfest, Madison WI.

SATURDAY, MAY, 11, 1991. Lakeshore Swapfest, Manitowoc, WI.

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1991. South Milwaukee Swapfest.

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas.

Send information on your event to Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages. For information on rates and requirements for our advertising pages, please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.

Club Meetings

Due to space limitations we cannot always carry the full listing of Wisconsin and area club meetings. Please see the August 1990 BSSS meetings column for the latest complete listing. The following listings are additions or changes since that listing.

QCWA - WISCONSIN CHAPTER #55

Contact Robert Halbman, AJ9P, Treasurer, For information about meeting dates or joining QCWA Chapter #55. The Wisconsin Chapter holds Spring and Fall dinner meetings.

The Fall dinner meeting will be October 6, 1990 at Klemmer's Williamsburg Inn, 10401 W. Oklahoma Ave., Greenfield, WI. 11:00 am registration, dinner noon, and meeting starting about 1:00 pm. Contact: Robert L Halbman, AJ9P, 1536 Summit Ave., Beloit, WI 53511 (608) 365-7409.

WAUPACA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

First Saturday in March, June, September and December, at 9:30 a.m. at the Waupaca Fire Station in downtown Waupaca.

"CQ First Tuesday" - A social gathering and dutch treat luncheon at the King's Table in King, WI, on Highway QQ just south of highways 10 and 54 on the west side of Waupaca.

The TEST POINT

The following are known locations where Amateur Radio license examinations are scheduled in the Badger State area. (Underlined are added or changed since last months BSSS.)

October 3, 1990	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
October 13, 1990	Eau Claire, WI
<u>October 14, 1990</u>	<u>Milwaukee, WI (BE)</u>
November 3, 1990	Menomonie, WI
<u>November 4, 1990</u>	<u>Kaukauna, WI</u>
November 7, 1990	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
November 17, 1990	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
December 1, 1990	Stevens Point, WI
December 5, 1990	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
December 8, 1990	Dubuque, IA
<u>December 13, 1990</u>	<u>Marshfield, WI</u>
<u>December 15, 1990</u>	<u>Marshfield, WI</u>
December 15, 1990	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
Monthly, First Sat.	Racine, WI
(except January, July & August)	
Monthly, Last Sat.	Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)	
Monthly, Third Sat.	Loves Park, IL
Minnesota tests listed at end of column	

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS:

Be sure to check with sponsors in the event there are changes and/or errors in the dates or information given.

Most examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VECs permit walk-ins. Check with sponsor.)

To register, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from an FCC Field Office, the ARRL or Badger State Smoke Signals. Send a 25¢ SASE if you request one from the ARRL or BSSS. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$4.95 payable to "ARRL/VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their original Amateur license to the VEC. A copy of your license must be attached to your FCC form 610. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only.

Additional information is given below.

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB - MRAC/VEC

1990 examination dates: Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 5.

Tests are Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at Wauwatosa East High School, North 74th and

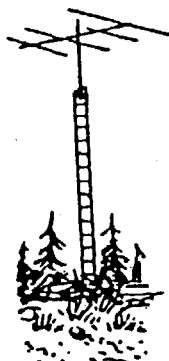
BADGER STATE SMOKE SIGNALS

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ADDRESS CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS should be sent to Kenneth A. Ebnetter, address above.

EDITORIAL MATERIAL, PHOTOGRAPHS, FEATURE ARTICLES, AND EXCHANGE PAPERS should be sent to Jim Romelfanger, address above.

DISPLAY ADS or INQUIRIES REGARDING DISPLAY ADS may be directed to Harry Westlund or Kenneth Ebnetter, addresses above.

SUBSCRIPTIONS should be sent, with check or money order (do not send cash), to Jim Decker, address above.

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1 year	(12 issues)	\$8.50
2 years	(24 issues)	\$16.00
3 years	(36 issues)	\$23.00

Milwaukee Avenue. Enter through the southmost entrance on 74th Street. Go to room 256 on the 2nd floor. Please arrive promptly, so testing can be completed before 10:00 p.m. Bring along your original license and two (2) good quality photocopies, plus two forms of identification, such as a driver's license, etc. Also required are a pen and \$4.75 for the exam fee. WALKINS are welcome. To register in advance, use a 15 cent U.S. post card: print the grade of license you are applying for, and your name, address, and telephone number. Send the card to MRAC/VEC, c/o Jack Krause, W9JK, 1737 North 116th Street, Wauwatosa, WI 53226, or to Ed Sergua, KE9JJ, 3840 South 43rd Street #21, Milwaukee, WI 53220. Telephones: (414) 774-6999 or (414) 545-6299.

BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE

Oct. 14, (Kettle Moraine Swapfest)

Nov. 17, & Dec. 15.

Unless otherwise noted, examinations are administered beginning at 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at St. Nicholas Church basement, 5345 N. Green Bay Ave. (2 1/2 blocks south of Silver Spring), Milwaukee. Walkins are welcome. To register in advance, send a post card with your name, test or tests you wish to take, date you wish to take, your call sign, address and telephone number to Badger Examiners, Gary J. Sharbuno, WI9M, 5119 W.

Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53223. Telephone (414) 355-0237.

MENOMONIE, WI (ARRL-VEC)

November 3, 1990

Credit Union Bldg., 444 S. Broadway, Menomonie, WI. Contact: Dr. T. King, WF9I, 108 Shorewood Dr., Menomonie, WI 54751. (715) 235-5757.

KAUKAUNA, WISCONSIN

Nov. 4, 1990

Starlite Club, Junction of CC and 55, Kaukauna, WI. Contact: Larry, KD9IA at (414) 788-3823 for more info.

STEVENS POINT, WISCONSIN

December 1, 1990

Blue Top Supper Club at south edge of the city on Business 51. Contact: Joe Larson, N9JW, 644 Portage St., Stevens Point, WI 54481. (715) 344-1182.

MARSHFIELD, WISCONSIN

Dec. 13, 7:00 p.m. - Dec. 15, 9:00 a.m.

Exams are given at St. Joseph Hospital, St. Joseph Ave., Marshfield, WI. Contact Bob Mc Daniels, WA9K, 904 W. Blodgett St., Marshfield, WI 54449 (715) 389-2256.

RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August.

Exams are given at 9:00 am at the Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Avenue, Racine. Contact: William Firchow, Jr., NW9P, 1912 27th Street, Kenosha, WI 53140, telephone (414) 658-8390.

Tomahawk, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Last Saturday of every month. Jan. thru Oct. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Greg Garner, WA9W, 4088 Highway 51, Harshaw, WI 54529. Telephone (715) 453-7096.

DUBUQUE, IOWA (ARRL/VEC)

December 8, 1990

Exams are at 9 a.m. in the Central Fire Station at 9th and Central in Dubuque. Contact Mike Jozefowicz, NSOU, 2735 Hickory Hill, Dubuque, Iowa, telephone 319-582-8563. Talkins are on the 147.84/24 and 147.63/03 repeaters.

Loves Park, IL (DEVRY VEC)

Third Saturday of every month.

Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. Contact: Dennis G. Eksten, W9SS, 5006 N. Second St., Loves Park, IL 61111. (815) 877-6768.

Correspondence

From Our Readers

SHUTTLE PACKET RADIO EXPERIMENT: CLUSTER BUSTER

To the editor:

It is with more than casual interest that I read the Westlink Report of August 3, 1990 in Badger State Smoke Signals. Outside of the appropriate explanation of what was currently happening with the (SAREX-90) mission, it was interesting to note the blatant side-swipe at PacketCluster operations. Since I am a sysop for the NB9C node of the Midwest DX PacketCluster Association, I would like to make the following points:

1. SAREX is going to use split frequency operation, with the people trying to connect with the Shuttle on 144.95. Many PacketCluster operations throughout the country operate their primary user frequency on 144.95 (our node to node communications frequency in Wisconsin is close to that frequency, but our users are on 220 MHz).

2. It can be effectively shown that 144.95 is, in fact, the busiest 2 meter frequency in the United States. Therein lies the problem - put thousands of hams trying to connect to the Shuttle on the busiest two meter frequency in the United States, and the potential for interference is awesome.

3. PacketCluster sysops operate on coordinated frequencies among their areas (our two meter frequency is coordinated in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Iowa) so that effective node to node communications can take place. Our user frequencies are coordinated for the same reasons.

4. Our cluster here in the Midwest is regularly having over 100 users connected to the 16 nodes at the same time. Traffic on the frequencies is a definite concern. I would venture to say that we have more people connected together at one time than the public packet network does in the whole state combined (or it is close). To then dump hundreds of more users in our area trying to connect to the Shuttle would devastate the ability of our users to be on the system.

5. The Westlink Report, written by Roy Neal, K6DUE (an objective source with his background (reporting for NBC-TV news from NASA)), says that there are "a few widely scattered PacketCluster operators" voicing opposition, and that "the benefits of the earth-space communications outweigh the few minutes a day that this might interfere with PacketCluster operations in a handful of localities." The report also says that the few minutes a day really means: "Packet operators by the thousands are expected to set up their gear for as long as 12 HOURS a day of packet DXing from the automated robot packet radio." I should have so few minutes to work at DXing.

When there are PacketCluster operations in the entire country, it is hardly a handful of localities. This is also the first time I have ever heard

California called a locality, much less half of the East Coast. And if the criteria for usefulness of a frequency is how many users can occupy it at one time, overriding the "few" that are already there, well, Bouvet has to be rated as one of the most successful DXpeditions of all time.

So, you have the potential for a huge amount of interference to users of State-coordinated packet frequencies on the busiest two meter frequency in the United States. Can you understand why there was a whole lot of concern by sysops of PacketCluster systems?

The objective of the concern was to move the frequency of the mission, since it has been delayed so much. That ended up not being possible. What is now being done by the sysops and users of the PacketCluster system is to monitor the frequency and determine the actual level of activity and interference to existing operations by the flight. This is being done in COOPERATION with appropriate ARRL and AMSAT authorities. This information will then be used for future flights.

Everyone wants the flight and the amateur operation to be successful from the Shuttle. What we are trying to prevent is the interference to the busiest two meter frequency in the United States.

That is the reality of the operation. As frequencies become less available because of use (that's what we all want), this type of concern (and hopefully cooperation) will need to take place so that we can all enjoy our particular part of the hobby.

Sincerely,

Scot Herrick, NB9C
Delafield, WI

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Wisconsin Nets

NET	WNA	FREQ.	UTC	CDT	MANAGER
BWN	Yes	3984	1100	0600	KC9CJ
BEN	Yes	3985	1700	1200	N9IAI
WSBN	Yes	3985	2230	1730	K9UTQ
WNN	Yes	3723	2300	1800	KA9FVX
WSSN	Yes	3645	2330	1830	N9BDL
WIN/E	Yes	3662	0000	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	Yes	3662	0300	2200	W9NGP
NWTN	Yes	34/94	2330	1830	NS9Q
6:30 Net	No	01/61	2330	1830	KA9OMC
Gr. Bay	No	72/12	0145	2045	WB9NRK
			Thu	Wed	
RACES	No	3993.5	1715	1215	WC9AAG
			USB Tue and Thu		
RACES	No	3993.5	1300	0800	WA9OAY
			LSB Sunday		

Section Manager's

notes

Richard R. Regent, K9GDF
5003 South 26th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53221



Congratulations to the 1990-91 \$500 West Allis RAC Memorial Scholarship winners: KA9LWN of Shawano (third consecutive year winner), WE9V in Greenfield, and KA9MSR of Kaukauna, all of whom hold Extra Class licenses. WARAC also donated Amateur Radio books to the Greenfield Public Library.

Thanks to the Four Lakes ARC and President KC9GO for their warm welcome recently given me when I presented a program at their Club.

Milwaukee RAC presented four programs on Amateur Radio at the Public Library Discovery World displays downtown.

W9ZM worked 130 countries on 18 MHz, and 50 on 24 MHz.

W9YCV worked 39 grids on 70 cm.

Exams: November 3rd, Credit Union in Menomonie, WF9I; November 3rd, Red Cross Building in Racine, NW9P; November 7th, East HS in Milwaukee, WI9M.

November 4th, Fox Cities ARC Hamfest at Starlite Club, corner of County CC and State 55 in Kaukauna, with exams, info from NB9J.

November 10th, the Milwaukee Repeater Club will hold the 6.91 Friendly Fest, open at 8 a.m. (7 a.m. for sellers), inside Serb Hall, 51st and Oklahoma in Milwaukee with free parking; contact K9IZV for more information. See you at the friendly ARRL table. The Friendly Fest will have on-site

Massive Earthquakes Predicted for Midwest

A "truly catastrophic" earthquake, registering at least eight on the Richter scale, will strike somewhere in the U.S. in the next 30 years, was recently told to Congress.

That "somewhere in the U.S." is important. While most persons equate earthquakes with California, the most devastating earthquake in this country took place in Missouri, along the New Madrid fault, in 1811 and 1812. The chances of another major quake in the Midwest within the next decade are projected at 40 to 60 percent.

Furthermore, the national infrastructure leads experts to believe that a Midwestern earthquake would be far more damaging than a West Coast quake of the same magnitude, because of the topological

features of the eastern half of the nation. Other factors contributing to the catastrophic damage projection are the dense population concentration, older buildings not meeting earthquake safety codes, and the aging utility transmission and pipeline networks of the east.

Dallas Peck, director of the U.S. Geological Survey, said, "Much of the damage would occur in cities such as Nashville, Memphis, and St. Louis," and urged communities to start making plans now for the inevitable. While such readiness involves enormous costs, individuals can take early and relatively inexpensive steps to protect themselves, their electronic equipment, and their businesses.

- Horizons, 6/90 in
Bandbits, Peoria Amateur Radio Club

Earthquake Drill Scheduled for Milwaukee ARES

By Richard R. Regent, K9GDF
5003 South 26th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53221

Three hundred casualties will be flown in military airplanes from 20 earthquake stricken cities to Milwaukee's Mitchell Field 440th Airport on October 13, 1990, in a drill to check hospital effectiveness. The staff of fifteen Milwaukee area hospitals will admit, perform triage, and treat a total of about 20 patients each. The patients, simulated by military personnel on their way home, will be realistically complaining about various injuries. They may also be impatient about getting fast transportation and proper treatment because, after the exercise, they will be off duty and taken home.

Milwaukee area Amateur Radio Emergency Service operators will provide communications for the drill with handhelds and mobile radios on repeaters, base control stations, and packet radio links. Efficient packet radio data handling and a smooth operation will help make the drill a success, and allow everyone to go home.

The scenario is based on a massive

earthquake, like the New Madrid fault earthquake, that shook a bell in Philadelphia and caused the Mississippi River to flow backwards for a few days. In those years, the affected area was fairly unpopulated, so casualties were few. A slight earthquake this October could easily cause the number of injuries proposed for this drill.

Amateur's packet radio, a mode only recently available for emergency situations, appears to be a unique service sought after by modern emergency response teams. Government officials love to work with printed information; packet radio output is printed. No one else on the response team can relay communication that is as accurate, yet fast and private. It is a quantum leap for emergency government volunteers. For the Amateurs, it's not only fun but, more important, it preserves the future of the hobby through new, meaningful, and significant support.

If you would like to participate in this drill, please contact John Leekley, WB9-SMM, District Emergency Coordinator, Milwaukee, WI.

exams given by the Milwaukee RAC/VEC starting at 9 a.m.

Marshfield Area ARS and Antigo Jr. HS ARC becoming League affiliated.

Watertown ARC has 22 members.

Sorry to report Silent Key W9GIT.

Remember to indicate your Club participation when submitting an entry in the November phone or CW ARRL Sweepstakes; mark your log accordingly.

Don't delay your antenna work any longer, winter is coming.

WF9I (Tom King, 4817 Sierra Dr., Eau Claire, WI 54701) has terrific plans for an interesting ancient flying top helicopter toy that you can build. (Please send him \$1 to cover postage and printing).

Happy Thanksgiving to all.

New Frequency for Milwaukee County ARES Wide Area Repeater

The wide-area repeater operated by the Milwaukee County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) at Sullivan, which had been operating on an output frequency of 146.775 MHz, has changed to an output frequency of 145.25 MHz. The input frequency is minus 600 KHz. This repeater is used for SkyWarn networks and other wide-area ARES operations. Milwaukee County ARES also operates a more local coverage repeater, with its output on 146.67 MHz. - Thanks Sherm Carr, W9NGT

Amateurs Help During Tomah Flood

By Kenneth D. Teclaw, N9GXP
Secretary, Tomah Regional
Repeater Group
1818 Truman Street
Tomah, WI 54660

During the night of August 17-18, 1990, the Tomah, Wisconsin area was hit with severe thunderstorms and was inundated with more than eight inches of rain in less than three hours.

In the early hours of Saturday morning (August 18), the Monroe County Emergency Government Coordinator contacted Mark Loether, KB9EBX, to request that the Tomah Regional Repeater Group's assistance when it became apparent that the Lemonweir River dam in the city might not hold (see photo at right). The Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) was promptly activated. Amateurs helped in various ways, including assisting in the evacuation of Elder Manor in the Farmer Addition, and in establishing radio communications between both sides of the river and with outlying communities.

Later in the morning, as more people were evacuated from their homes, the American Red Cross asked for communications help at their shelters in the Junior High School and the Veterans Administration gymnasiums. Richard Koebernick, KA9ZZK, and Jason Sweeney, N9GNA, responded, and established initial communications between the Tomah Red Cross and the La Crosse Red Cross office. Later, Mike Warnock, WN9P, of Sparta, WI, arrived to relieve them when their own homes were in danger of being flooded.

All day, ham radio operators throughout the state monitored the situation and offered their assistance. In mid-afternoon, Dave Arnold, NØCUO, from Necedah, arrived and provided additional support and relief for the other operators at the Emergency Government Communications Command Center.

As night came, a contingent of 18 hams from Wisconsin Rapids and Marshfield arrived, led by Clyde Downing, N9KAK. The Wisconsin Rapids group met the Marshfield contingent at Necedah, and the entourage then headed for Tomah. They reported to local officials and hams for assignments. Most were not needed, but some did provide relief and reinforcement for the local operators; they were promptly put to work relieving the local hams and they manned positions in additional areas through the night.

Bill Bastian, N9BOE, manned the local Tomah Weather Radar as more rain threatened the community in the late afternoon and early evening hours.

By early morning, the dam was still in place and was holding. The worst of the



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☐ 1 year ☐ 2 years ☐ 3 years

☐ new ☐ renewal

(Please turn to page 14)

Ham Radio License Plates: The Collection Connection

By Dennis Schultz, KA9NUG
N8060 Highway 22
Pardeeville, WI 53954

While visiting relatives in Rapid City, South Dakota this summer, I listened to a conversation on the 146.94 repeater. The conversation was about Amateur Radio call sign license plates and auto registrations.

One of the hams in the conversation is from the Rapid City area (I didn't get his call written down), and the other is from Windsor, Ontario. The fellow from South Dakota told of the recent, drastic increase in the fee for Amateur call plates, and that many South Dakota hams are not going to renew theirs because of the extra cost.

When their QSO was finished, I called



Left to right, Bob Gammon, VE3CJX, his son Greg, and Vern Dameron, K1DRN, display some of the call sign license plates at the collectors' convention in Rapid City. The P40A plate Vern is holding is the first Amateur Radio plate ever issued on the island of Aruba, and was issued to Vern when he was there.

- Photo by Dennis Schultz/KA9NUG



These out-of-country Amateur Radio plates are part of the collection of Vern Dameron, K1DRN.

- Photo courtesy Vern Dameron/K1DRN

VE3CJX, Bob Gammon, and talked with him for a while about call plates. Bob told me that he was in Rapid City for a License Plate Collector Convention. He invited me to come to the Civic Center for the three day event.

The next day, Larry (my brother-in-law from Rapid City) and I went to the Civic Center to meet Bob. After we located him and talked a few minutes with he and his son Greg, he introduced us to a friend of his, Vern Dameron, K1DRN, from Bedford, Massachusetts.

Neither Bob nor Vern had a black-on-yellow call plate from Wisconsin, so I promised each of them one with KA9NUG on it. These have been sent, and I have received nice letters from each. Ham radio really is a great way to meet new friends!

Bob Gammon was one member of a three-man committee which convinced the Ontario (Canada) Provincial Government of the need for Amateur Radio call sign license plates. Several presentations were made to the Ministry of Transportation and Communications by the committee, along with the help of several provincial Members of Parliament. The presentation included color photos of call plates from all areas of North America (except Ontario),

letters of endorsement from mayors, police and fire chiefs, hospitals, Amateur Radio clubs, etc. There were even Amateurs who provided a display of actual call plates from each state and province!

These events took place late in 1975. On Thursday, March 18, 1976, the Honourable Minister (of Transportation and Communications) James Snow announced to the legislature that he was granting call letter license plates to the Radio Amateurs of Ontario. This ended a 17-year struggle to gain this privilege.

In May, 1976, Bob Gammon traveled to Toronto to present a plaque of appreciation to James Snow. Bob received, in return, the first set of Amateur Radio call plates from Mr. Snow.

In 1990, another campaign is underway to change the lettering at the bottom of call plates in Ontario from "YOURS TO DISCOVER" to "AMATEUR RADIO." This change is necessary as a result of the loss of uniqueness of Amateur call plates due to the introduction of what we in Wisconsin call "vanity plates." (The Wisconsin State Department of Transportation calls them "personalized plates.")

Once again, a three-man committee heads up this effort. The committee con-

(Continued on page 7)

Ham License Plates

(Continued from page 6)

sists of Bob Gammon (VE3CJX), Paul Smith (VE3PS), and Perry Baaden (VE3-PJP).

The committee of 1975 consisted of Paul Smith (then VE3FAA), Bob Gammon (then VE3ACL), and Dr. Howard White (VE3GFW).

Vern Dameron and his wife were in Aruba for a week in early August, 1989. He carried with him, in a shoulder bag, a Yeasu FT-747-GX transceiver and matching power supply. In his suitcase was a dipole for 20 meters.

Upon arrival on Aruba, Vern went to the telecommunications office to have them issue a P4Ø callsign to him. He had written several months before his arrival, requesting a license, which was to be issued upon his arrival. At the telecommunications office he asked for, and received, the callsign P4ØA.

Aruba is a fairly rare DXCC country, and Vern wanted to work as many people as possible from there. He arranged to put the dipole on the roof of the Holiday Inn. The radio worked very nicely, and he gave many people a new country.

Now, you remember that Vern is also a license plate collector. So, why not get some Aruba call plates with your call on them while you're there?

Vern said in a letter to me, "The P40A license plates (they have no slash mark for the zero) were issued to me while I was in Aruba. It wasn't easy, but I was able to get them issued to me. The P40A plates were the first-ever-issued ham radio plates in Aruba! I am quite proud of them."

You can also see the P40A license plate on page 13 of the April 1990 issue of QST. Just below and to the left of the plate is K1DRN, Vern's Massachusetts call plate.

It was a pleasure to meet and get acquainted with Bob Gammon, his son Greg, and Vern Dameron. As we were about to leave the Convention Center, Greg handed me a German moped license plate to keep as a souvenir. A thoughtful young man like this would be a real asset to Amateur Radio. I hope he decides to become a Ham, as well as a license plate collector!

Where's the Beam?

Unobtrusive DX Gain Antennas for 80 thru 10
• Easily hidden • Install Fast • Fixed or Portable •

There's a 20 meter antenna with real DX Punch hidden in this picture. You can't see it, and your neighbors can't either. But it works DX barefoot anyway. How about a low profile 80/40/30 tri-bander? Or a 2 element monobander for the attic? All easily fit the pocketbook—Priced \$29 to \$99.

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Riverland Amateur Radio Club

FIRST ANNUAL

RARC Hamfest and Shopping Spree

La Crosse Valley View Mall

Sunday, November 11, 1990

8 a.m. 'til 4 p.m.

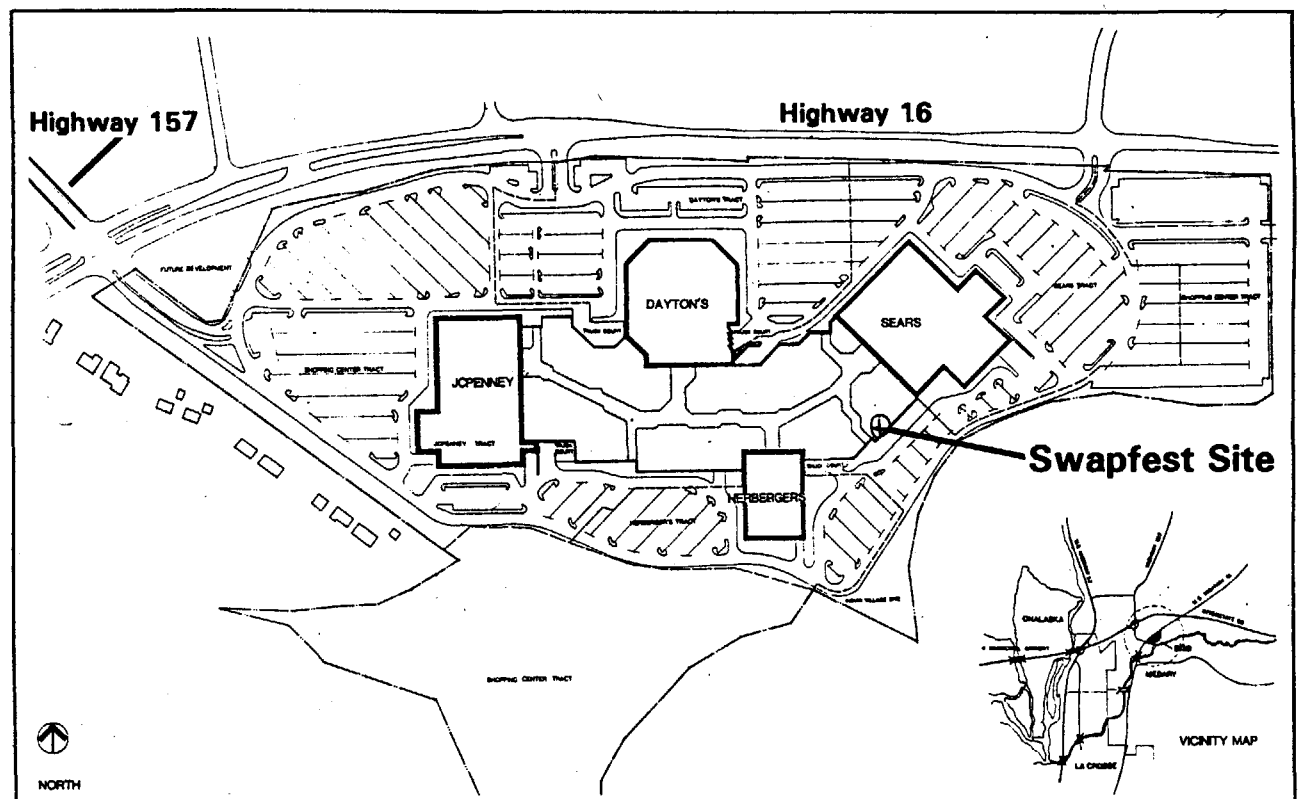
Open to all Hams and Friends

Cost: Individual Admission - \$1.00

Tables: \$2.00 Table Rent for Sales

The Mall will be open at 7:00 a.m. for setup. Loading door is between Entrance #3 and Sears. The location is shown on the map.

There is ready access to all Mall facilities, restaurants, and retail stores for other shopping, etc.



Valley View Mall is at the intersection of Highways 16 and 157, just south of I-90 interchange #4. There is abundant parking available.

Riverland ARC, W6539 Birch St., Onalaska, WI 54650

K9UTQ Demos Ham Radio for Scouts

By Gene Santoski, K9UTQ

Scoutmaster, Troop 171, Wisconsin
1220 18th Street South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Every year, when I take my Scout Troop to Summer Camp for a week, or when we go on a weekend outing, I set up my portable gear as shown in the photos.

The equipment includes: Kenwood TS-440S/AT, HAL CWR 6850 Telereader, ICOM IC-28/H two meter transceiver, ICOM IC-02AT two meter portable, Uniden HR-2600 10 meter transceiver, AEA code machine, and a Radio Shack Model 100 laptop computer and Pac-Comm Micromodem 2 (for packet radio).

I erect a 120-foot center fed wire antenna with tuned feeders, and use it with an MFJ tuner for all-band operation. I also use

Hustler whips on the back of the truck.

This entire setup will run from 12 volts DC, so it also makes a good emergency portable station.

The Scouts really look forward to seeing the setup, and they enjoy it very much. I have a straight key connected to the Telereader, so they can send their name - or whatever - from a Morse code chart and see what they are actually sending on the 5" CRT on the Telereader.

I also always make sure that I have ample supplies of Amateur Radio informational handout literature for the Scouts. The boys really go for the Archie comic book ("Archie's Ham Radio Adventure", published by the ARRL).

It doesn't show in the photos, but I fly the ARRL flag, too!

My son, who is KB9DVS, assists with these demonstrations, and is an active Scout.

(The annual Boy Scout Jamboree on the Air will be held in October. Please see the story on page 13 of this issue of Badger State Smoke Signals.)



Gene (seated) shows a happy group of Scouts how Amateur Radio works. Gene's son, KB9DVS, is directly behind Gene in this photo.

- Photos courtesy Gene Santoski/K9UTQ

Racine Megacycle Club

R. Stephen Bellgraph,
K9ZL, Secretary
402 Shelly Drive
Racine, WI 53405

Meeting of September 10, 1990

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m.

A motion was made and accepted to delete reading of the August minutes, since they were not available.

The treasurer's report was given. The present balance is \$283.77. The report was accepted.

The RMC received a copy of the Amateur Television Quarterly, which was circulated to the members present.

The Wustum Museum sent an invitation to the club to hold a meeting at the museum, and enjoy a tour of the displays. The invitation was turned over to W9OVZ, Program Chairman, for consideration.

Old Business

Bill, W9OVZ, reported that he has been working on the club generator, and hopes to complete his work this week. Jim, KB9CCY, has been working with Bill, and plans to be involved in the startup.

The president reported that two tables are available for the club at the upcoming Grayslake swap meet. One is to be an information table, while the other will be for selling tape and other items.

Our antenna, which was damaged by ice, has yet to be repaired. We will try again this Saturday after the 8 a.m. Heritage breakfast.

The membership accepted for payment a bill from W9OVZ covering the cost of gasoline used on Field Day.

While we have our antenna out for repair, Betty, from the Red Cross, wants to be sure our rigs are ready to go in case there is trouble. It is felt that the expected outage will be so short that there should be no concern.

New Business

Dan, KA9OIL, and Jim, KB9CCY, will

be holding a Novice class on October 6. The only cost will be for each student to purchase a code tape and a study manual. The classes are to be held at 2525 Three Mile Road. Interested parties can contact either Dan or Jim for further information.

This year's Breeze Bike Ride is to be held on September 29. Anyone able and willing to help, or wanting more details, should contact Dan, KA9OIL. There will be two checkpoints and three Sag Wagons to be manned by Amateurs.

WD9DSZ, WB9RGO, W0WLN, W9CKQ, NW9P, NW9N, KB9BJV, and KA9LOK, took part in the Police Dusk Run, the proceeds of which went to the Special Olympics.

Jim, WA0PFV, passed out copies of a radio inventory list and letter of intention, and suggested that every ham should fill them out and attach them to their will. In light of what has happened in recent cases of silent keys, these forms should be of considerable help to a surviving mate or anyone else having to clean up the loose ends when a ham passes away, leaving a considerable amount of radio equipment.

(Please turn to page 15)

New Products

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF HAM RADIO



"The Wonderful World of Ham Radio: An Introduction for Young People"

By Richard Skolnik, KB4LCS

MFJ Enterprises, Inc. announces the release of a new book designed to introduce young people to ham radio. "The Wonderful World of Ham Radio: An Introduction for Young People" (MFJ-35, \$7.95) is a book to help young people enjoy learning about ham radio.

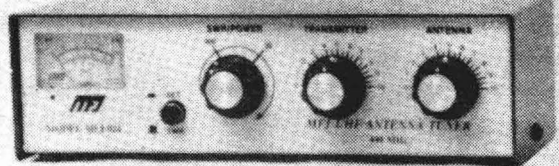
This fun-to-read book shows young people what ham radio is all about, and why it can be a valuable part of their lives. It shows how hams learn about computers, electronics, geography, and more, through ham radio.

It shows how hams provide valuable communications services during emergencies. It even includes an actual emergency QSO.

"The Wonderful World of Ham Radio" is jam packed with interesting photos of students learning about and using ham radio, radios, ham radio stations, Field Day setups, and more.

Finally, it shows you how to get a ham license and set up a station to talk with hams around the world. At only \$7.95 retail, it's a good value to help get young people interested in ham radio.

- MFJ news release



MFJ-924 440 MHz Antenna Tuner with Built-in SWR/Wattmeter

MFJ Enterprises, Inc., the world's leading manufacturer of antenna tuners and other Amateur Radio accessories, an-

nounces the release of the new MFJ-924 440 MHz Antenna Tuner with built-in SWR/Wattmeter, priced at just \$69.95.

This new MFJ UHF tuner handles power up to 200 watts. Its compact 8 x 2-1/2 x 3 inch size, and its wide impedance matching range, make it an excellent choice for mobile and/or base operation. It also features SO-239 input and output connectors, and a wing nut post for ground.

The built-in SWR/Wattmeter shows you power on 30 or 300 watt scales, and SWR. The MFJ-924 comes with MFJ's one year unconditional guarantee.

For more information about MFJ products, or to order, contact any MFJ dealer, or MFJ Enterprises, Inc., P.O. Box 494, Mississippi State, MS 39762, or call (601) 323-5869; FAX: (601) 323-6551; TELEX: 53 4598 MFJSTKV; or order toll-free at (800) 647-1800.

- MFJ news release

"Don C. Wallace, W6AM"

By Jan D. Perkins, N6AW

This book describes the history of

Northern Wisconsin Radio Club

—Since 1923—

Steve Kraft, KE9RW
Secretary
Rt. 7, Box 62
Menomonie, WI. 54751

Here's another update on the Northern Wisconsin Radio Club's activities during the summer months.

We provided communications at the Boyceville Municipal Airport on August 19 for a fly-in and air show. We would like to thank WB9WKO, KA9WZP, KA9YEB, KA9-OMC, KE9RW, NX9F, N9GQU, N8MMC, WU8I, N9JBN, KE9VA and KA9ZAJ.

Some possible programs for our club meetings this season are a trip to WHWC (TV-28) near Wheeler, and a presentation by Dunn County Disaster Chairman Tom Johnson.

Is anyone interested in making the NWRC an ARRL Special Service Club? ARRL SSCs receive additional benefits, so form an opinion and come to our next meeting.

We welcome two new hams to the area: Doris, WU8I, and Ed, N8MMC. They live in Boyceville.

The Menomonie High School Amateur Radio Club has begun another year in cooperation with local Amateurs. The writer of this column, Steve, KE9RW, is a high school senior and president of the Menomonie High School ARC. The club's advisor, Ron, WB9WKO, teaches Physical Science, and integrates Amateur Radio into his curriculum, while still finding time to help prospective and new Amateurs. Hopefully, the MHS ARC will spread the enthusiasm

Amateur Radio, as experienced by Don Wallace.

He was on the air in 1911, before the first radio regulations.

Don was the radio operator for President Wilson at the Versailles Peace Conference.

He was the winner of the Hoover Cup, for the best home-built Amateur Radio station.

Don was a Charter Member of WAC (Worked All Continents) in 1926.

He went on to install 16 rhombic antennas on 120 acres in Rolling Hills, at that time the largest and most powerful Amateur Radio station in the world. By 1957, W6AM achieved the top of the ARRL DXCC Honor Roll, a spot he occupied most of the next 28 years.

The book is hardbound, 350 pages, and has a pre-publication price of \$19.95. It is available from Wallace and Wallace, 11823 E. Slauson Avenue, Suite 38, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670.

- Wallace and Wallace news release via Rich Regent, K9GDF

of Amateur Radio to fellow students.

The NWRC is partially sponsoring Novice classes this fall. They are being held in the basement of the Dunn County Sheriff's Department at 714 17th Street in Menomonie. They meet on Thursday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., and will conclude November 1.

The NWRC has been asked by Tom, WF9I (Menomonie ARRL-VEC), to sponsor the exams given in the basement of the Westconsin Credit Union Building. The next ARRL-VEC exam session will be November 3rd, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Remember to bring the standard fee, identification, your original license (if you have one), and a photocopy of your license.

Twenty-four hams made the 11th annual Tinman Triathlon operate smoothly on September 2nd. This event, which is held in Menomonie and the surrounding countryside, attracts competitors from across the United States. Thanks go to Bill, N9HNI, for allowing us to use the 146.805 repeater that day.

NWRC 1991 dues (\$5) are due now, and your BSSS subscription renewal is due when you receive your renewal letter. Give that letter and \$5 to a club officer, and your subscription will be sent in at the discount rate for members.

If you are planning to join the ARRL, or renewing your ARRL membership, get a renewal form from a club officer. Return it to us with your payment, and the NWRC will receive \$5 for each new member and \$2 for each renewal. This is one way you can support your ARRL-affiliated club, the NWRC.

The next meeting of the NWRC will be Oct. 23rd, at 7:30 p.m. in the back room of the Peppermill Restaurant in the Thunderbird Mall, Menomonie. This meeting will

(Please turn to page 14)

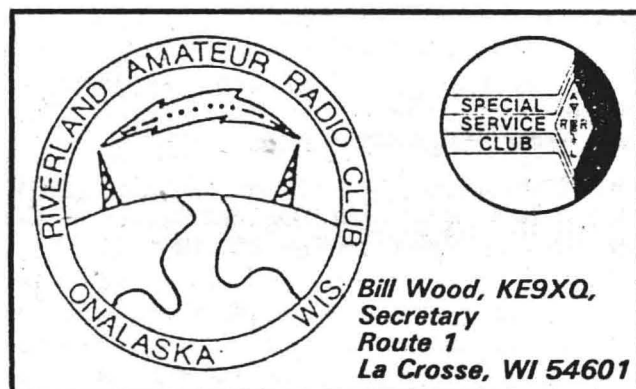
Some of RMC's Finest Fox Hunters



The Racine Megacycle Club has periodic hidden transmitter hunts ("fox hunts"), which are always challenging, indeed. The photos above were taken after a recent hunt. In the left photo are Dennis Demet, WB9SVM, and his wife, of Union Grove. The photo at right



shows David Winnen, N9DLZ, Racine, right; John; and Douglas Kleemann, KA9LWN, of Shawano. (Editor's note: The information for the photo at right is incorrect or incomplete; we did the best we could with the info supplied.) - Photos by Dave Whitham/KC9NG



Bill Wood, KE9XQ,
Secretary
Route 1
La Crosse, WI 54601

Greetings:

The regular monthly meeting of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club was called to order by our president, Dick Low, KØJYB, at 7:35 p.m. September 4th, 1990.

First, the reading of the last meeting's minutes were called for and accepted in an abbreviated form.

Next, Dick presented the treasurer's report that Arby Boomer, WF9T, sent via landline, and it was also approved.

Walter Altus, WD9GCR, reported on the more extensive swapfest we had alluded to in the last month's minutes. Various tentative plans were presented, such as, it is to be held at the Valley View Mall, November 11th (not as I reported Oct.); \$2.00 per table, \$1.00 to get in, etc. Several have worked up a mailout, with the details clearly drawn out.

Walt moved to rescind last month's plans, and replace them with the November 11th larger swap meet plans. Karl Olberg, W4ST, seconded this, and the motion passed.

Bill Wood, KE9XQ, reported on the committee formed to study the challenge we proposed for the Smoke Signals computer. Rick Williams, KV9U, and Bill both reported positive responses, both from club members and B.S.S.

So, Bill read a letter mocked up to challenge the other clubs using the paper. Rick moved, and Walter seconded, to make this an official challenge. The club accepted this work, understanding that its maximum liability in this is to be \$250.00. They requested Charlie Burch, KA9UUK (an ex-English teacher), to help get these letters out, with proper English. (My English ain't too great.) It was also suggested that B.S.S. would publish the results to help communicate the progress on the goal we set. We've also set a time limit for reaching this goal by at least Dec. 31, 1990.

Dick brought up the subject of liability insurance, and presented ARRL's plan with up to \$2 million coverage. Charlie moved, and Jim Wiskow, KE9BC, seconded that the club should go with this policy, and the club accepted it.

Larry Kapp, WT9M, suggested the club look further into the repeater's adaptability for remote base, linking, etc. The consensus was to have him check it out with Dan, WCØV, and Van, WA9FIO, to see if it's possible without changing the number of antennas, etc., etc.

Charlie moved to reduce the club rates to \$10.00 for each additional household member, especially seeing these do not need the extra subscription to the Smoke Signals. Dallas C. Miller, K9LEC, seconded,

and all were in favor.

Congratulations go out to all those members who have worked so hard and upgraded over the past couple months.

Charlie moved, and Dallas seconded, adjournment, and we adjourned at about 8:38.

Respectfully submitted:

Bill Wood, KE9XQ, Riverland A.R.C.

ATTENDANCE

Karl L. Olberg
George Kroner
Charlie Burch
Dick Low
Jim Wiskow
Ernie Gershon
Rick Williams
John Jorenby
Walter Altus
Greg A. Miller
Art Osborn
Joe Mazera
Tom Gromacki
Gary L. Webb
Ralph Jahimiak
Nook Bentzen
Richard Fink
Larry Kapp
Scott Neader
Wid Johnson
Maty Johnson
Feroz Ghouse
Dallas Miller
Hugh Barker
Dean Summers

W4ST
KE9PL
KA9UUK
KØJYB
KE9BC
K9ZVU
KV9U
KA9ETH
WD9GCR
KA9FOZ
WØJDC
WA9SOQ
KB9BIS
NI9V
WA9OAE
K9EGO
KB9FFJ
WT9M
KA9FOX/AE
W9DM
XYL/W9DM
N9FJL
K9LEC
KAØEJZ
KQØC

Waupaca Club Members Lend a Hand

Wisconsin Novice Net Manager in Accident En Route to Picnic

On Saturday, September 8, 1990, the Wisconsin Nets Association held their annual picnic at Hartman Creek State Park, which is located west of Waupaca off Highway 54.

One of the hams traveling to the picnic, with his wife Virginia and their grandson, was Wisconsin Novice Net Manager Adrian Apple, KA9FVX. They were driving on Highway 54 when a car coming the opposite way crossed the center line, veered onto the shoulder, and skidded into Adrian's car. Adrian's car was totaled but, fortunately, Adrian, his wife and their grandson were okay. Virginia did spend Saturday and Sunday in a Stevens Point hospital as a precautionary measure. In the meantime, Adrian stayed in a local Holiday Inn awaiting his wife's release.

Many of the hams attending the Wisconsin Nets Association Picnic used the Waupaca Repeater, 147.39, as a talkin frequency. It was on this frequency that WB4F reported to Bob Towns, N9IAI, that one of the vehicles involved in the accident had KA9FVX license plates. N9IAI informed those already at the picnic.

When it was learned that Adrian, his wife and their grandson had been transported to Stevens Point, Bob called Frank Podach, N9JQR, a resident of Stevens Point. Frank furnished Bob with the hospital's telephone number. After a short wait, Bob returned to the air on 147.39 and announced that Adrian and grandson were staying at the Holiday Inn, and that Virginia was in fine spirits except for some bumps and bruises.

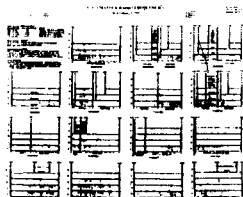
Bob reported that Virginia and Adrian expressed some concern about the radio gear in the vehicle, and he suggested that Bob call Frank Podach. Frank had already offered to help Adrian recover the radios. Within the hour, Frank picked up Adrian, drove to the location where the vehicle had been towed, removed the radios, and returned Adrian to the motel.

During our evening net on 147.39, Frank said he would not accept anything for his help except a handshake and thanks, "cause after all, Adrian is a ham and so am I, and that's what I believe hams are expected to do." Frank proudly added, "I did my good deed for the day."

Bob, N9IAI, and Frank, N9JQR, are active members of the Waupaca Amateur Radio Club and are supporters of the 147.39 repeater. We are happy to have them in our club, and proud of the help they provided to Adrian and his family during their time of need.

- Carl Lassasne, N9JXB
Secretary/Treasurer,
Waupaca Amateur Radio Club
Route 3, Box 449
Wautoma, WI 54982-9342

LARGE 17x22"
Amateur Frequency Chart
1.8 - 1300 MHz



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Madison, WI 53711

(Wisconsin orders add 5% sales tax.)

Milwaukee Club Does a Demo

The Milwaukee Radio Amateur Club, in cooperation with the Milwaukee Public Library's "Discovery World", made educational and informative presentations describing and demonstrating Amateur Radio operation.

Ed Wille, W9PWG, and Ed Seruga, KE9JJ, were at the downtown library, along with a complete operating Amateur Radio station. Contacts were made on 20 meters and 2 meters at each demonstration session. There were four sessions on Tuesday, August 21 and Wednesday, August 22.

At each session for the young people, a lecture about the physics of radio was given, followed by the Amateur Radio demonstration. After the demonstration, the groups retired to each make a crystal receiver set.

The enthusiasm of each group was a pleasure to see, especially since a number of the people in each group expressed a desire to become Amateur Radio operators.

Promotional material from the American Radio Relay League was presented to those in attendance, and was much appreciated.

Adults who were with the groups were also interested in Amateur Radio, with several asking whether we could make presentations and demonstrations for recreation and scouting organizations.

- From a report to Rich Regent, K9GDF,
Wisconsin Section Manager, by
MRAC Secretary Ed Seruga, KE9JJ

Printing Deadline Clarification

In last month's issue, we said we went to press on the last Monday of the month. Not necessarily! The Riverland ARC meets the first Tuesday of each month, and we key our printing date to that day. To find the BSSS press date for any month, count 8 days back from the first Tuesday of the next month. It's always a Monday, but not always the last one of the month.

- K9ZZ

JANUARY 4, 1983

**A CURE WAS FOUND
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Meet the King Family

By Richard R. Regent, K9GDF
5003 South 26th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53221

The King family of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, is a helpful, happy, and friendly ham group: OM Tom, WF9I; XYL Debbie, N9GLG; son Adam, N9JRC, and son Seth, almost a Novice.

Tom, Extra Class WF9I, was first interested in Amateur Radio at age six, but couldn't find anyone to aim him toward getting licensed. So, after completing schooling and wrapping up a few other commitments, Tom finally got licensed in 1985, and has been quick to make up for lost time. Tom is now eager to help others learn about Amateur Radio and get their licenses as part of the Volunteer Exam Team in the Menomonie area. He's visibly enthusiastic so that no one has to wait 30 years to become a ham, as he did. When not on the radio and helping others, Dr. Thomas King works as a Speech and Language Pathologist and Professor at the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire, and is Supervisor of the Augmentative Communication Clinic.

Debbie, N9GLG, smiles when she says, "I'm very busy and wish I had more time to be active in ham radio. I like the hobby most because my husband is a ham. It helps keep our family together, and it's good to have a hobby everyone is involved in." Debbie works hard as a consultant to teach solutions for non-speaking and disabled access folks. She lead two major statewide conferences over the past two years, and particularly enjoyed attending a rehabilitation seminar in Boston recently. Debbie and Tom got their way paid totally because of their interest and expertise in Morse code!

Eleven year old Adam, Technician class N9JRC, uses the phonetics Junior Rocket Champ, since he is an expert in building and testing all kinds of rockets when not operating two meters. Youngest son Seth, age 9, is studying code, and has just passed the Novice written exam. Seth is a penguin expert, with a large collection and store of knowledge about those tuxedoed birds.

Tom evangelizes for Morse code as a language for the non-speaking disabled, especially through access features of Handi-CODE. It's a computer program, available for MS-DOS computers, that converts Morse code input into keyboard data. The program has powerful macros, shortcuts to automate a series of keystrokes, and can be used for speech output with a voice synthesizer. Tom says, "HandiCODE allows adapted control of a PC with convenience and speed that can rival keyboard entry. I am most impressed with this system, and can envision a multitude of uses for it." He recommends this program as a means of communicating for people who have had some loss of speaking, writing, typing, or dialing, such as occurs to certain cerebral palsy patients or victims of car accidents. "It's better than row-column scanning methods that move a computer screen cursor to a row and column to select a letter. Morse code is faster, more direct, and works on comparatively simple equipment."

Tom proves his point by describing an unusual but powerful application. With a hand key connected to a portable computer running a Morse code decoder program, Tom says, "I could dictate while driving my car by sending my thoughts in Morse code. I do this on my office PC, but have not yet done it on a laptop PC in the car! It should work fine - just as it does in the office. It has many advantages: no spelling problems for similar sounding words, eliminates the keyboard entry step, and allows word processing and printing within minutes of arriving at home."

One of Tom's recent articles on the Morse code method is in the Summer 1990 issue of Handi-Ham World, a publication of the Courage Handi-Ham System, where he gives ten thoughtful tips to learning code, your next language.

Besides hamming it up, the King family is in excellent physical shape. Tom and Debbie are Karate instructors, and both have black-belt ratings; Adam and Seth have earned their green belts in Karate - sort of advanced beginner level. Tom says, "When we say



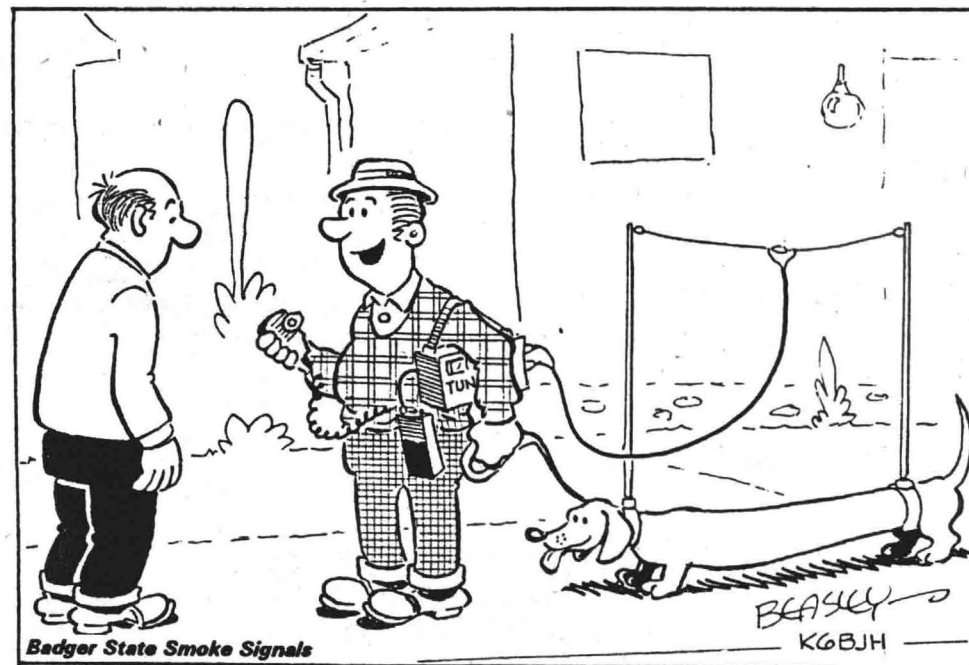
Here is the King family: In front are sons Seth, left, almost a Novice, and son Adam, N9JRC. Behind are dad Tom King, WF9I, at left, and mom Debbie, N9GLG.

break, break, we mean it." Tom and Debbie are the coaches of the local ski race team of 35 kids, ages 4 to 17. Both Adam and Seth are gold-medal winning ski racers in slalom, giant slalom, and downhill events. They're all League members, too. The King family can be found at many Swapfests promoting Amateur Radio in the special way they know best, as a happy ham family.

If you would like more information about the special use of Morse code and the HandiCODE, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Dr. Thomas W. King, WF9I, 4817 Sierra Drive, Eau Claire, WI 54701.

Hot Dogs Diane

Mike, KA9BHL, is happy his wife Diane, KA9BHK, got her General Class license in May. Mike was spotted at the Eau Claire ARC Swapfest without Diane, who was visiting her sister in Washington, D.C. Nonetheless, Mike had a delicious breakfast: hot coffee and a hot dog. Then for dinner: pop and a hot dog. Don't worry, Diane; Mike is keeping to the 3 basic food groups. - Rich Regent, K9GDF



I DON'T MIND WALKING THE XYL'S NEW DOG --- HE'S MORE THAN A HALF-WAVE LONG ON 2 METERS?

Jamboree on the Air October 19-20, 1990

The 33rd Annual Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) will be held this year on October 19-20. This event is sponsored by the World Organization of the Scout Movement, with the purpose of getting Amateur Radio operators and Cub Scouts/Boy Scouts together, both to introduce the boys to Amateur Radio through a first hand experience and, at the same time, allowing Scouts to contact other Scouts worldwide during the event.

Each year, over 300,000 Scouts participate in this event. The first JOTA was held in 1958. Many contacts made during JOTA have resulted in pen pals and links between Scouts that have lasted for many years. Many Scouts and their leaders hold Amateur Radio licenses and have their own stations, but the majority participate in JOTA through stations operated by local clubs or individual hams.

We hams can participate in many ways. One way is to contact local Scoutmasters/Cubmasters and invite them to bring their packs/troops to your shack to participate. Another way is to set up a station in a public place, which Scout groups can visit and operate in JOTA.

It is a good idea, several weeks before JOTA, to visit local Scout groups and tell them about Amateur Radio communications, and perhaps show the "New World of Amateur Radio" video, which is geared toward the younger set. Such an activity could stimulate the boys' interest in JOTA.

The event hours begin at 00:01 hours local time on Saturday, October 19, and conclude 48 hours later, at 23:59 hours local time on Sunday, October 20.

Scouts just love to collect patches, and a very colorful embroidered patch is available to all participants.

If you would like further information on JOTA, contact me and I will send you additional data. Also, look in the special events columns in CQ, QST, and Worldradio magazines.

THANK YOU!

- Gene Santoski, K9UTQ
1220 18th Street South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Hewmur

FIRST MAN: Sugar is the only word in which the "su" makes an "sh" sound. SECOND MAN: Are you sure?

- From an old

Amateur Radio News Service Bulletin

Parade Communications Story Won't Appear

Last month, we published a story about how Amateur Radio became an integral part of the Great Circus Train's annual trip from Baraboo's Circus World Museum to Milwaukee for the Great Circus Parade. The story ended with a statement that this issue would include a story about one of the largest

ARES operations in the midwest, the nets operated for the Great Circus Parade in Milwaukee. However, the author has told us that he will not be able to write the story at this time. We do not know if the story will appear in a later issue, but we do hope that we can publish a story of some kind soon. -K9ZZ

BEST OF MFJ

MFJ, Bencher and Curtis team up to bring you America's most popular keyer in a compact package for smooth easy CW



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The best of all CW world's -- a deluxe MFJ Keyer using a Curtis 8044ABM chip in a compact package that fits right on the Bencher iambic paddle!

This MFJ Keyer is small in size but big in features. You get iambic keying, adjustable weight and tone and front panel volume and speed controls (8-50 WPM), dot-dash memories, speaker, sidetone and push button selection of automatic or semi-automatic/tune modes. It's also totally RF proof and has ultra-reliable solid state outputs that key both tube and solid state rigs. Use 9 volt battery or 110 VAC with MFJ-1305, \$12.95.

The keyer mounts on a Bencher paddle to form a small (4-1/8 x 2-5/8 x 5/2 inches) attractive combination that is a pleasure to look at and use.

The Bencher paddle has adjustable gold plated silver contacts, lucite paddles, chrome plated brass and a heavy steel base with non-skid feet.

You can buy just the keyer assembly, MFJ-422BX, for only \$79.95 to mount on your Bencher paddle.

Deluxe 300 W Tuner



MFJ-949D is the world's most popular 300 watt PEP tuner. It covers 1.8-30 MHz, gives you a new peak and average reading Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, built-in dummy load, 6 position antenna switch and 4:1 balun -- in a compact 10 x 3 x 7 inch cabinet. Meter lamp uses 12 VDC or 110 VAC with MFJ-1312, \$12.95.

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MFJ-812B covers 2 Meters and 220 MHz. 30 or 300 Watt scales. Also reads relative field strength 1-170 MHz and SWR above 14 MHz. 4 1/2 x 2 1/4 x 3 in.

MFJ Coax Antenna Switches



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\$21.95 MFJ-1702B

\$59.95 MFJ-1704

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"Dry" Dummy Loads for HF/VHF/UHF



MFJ has a full line of dummy loads to suit your needs. Use a dummy load for tuning to reduce needless (and illegal) QRM and save your finals. MFJ-260B, \$28.95. VHF/HF. Air cooled, non-inductive 50 ohm resistor. 50-239 connector. Handles 300 Watts. Run full load for 30 seconds, derating curve to 5 minutes. SWR less than 1.3:1 to 30 MHz, 1.5:1 to 150 MHz. 2 1/2 x 2 1/2 x 7 in. MFJ-262, \$69.95. HF. 1 KW. SWR less than 1.5:1 to 30 MHz. 3x3x13 in. MFJ-264, \$109.95. Versatile UHF/VHF/HF 1.5 KW load. Low SWR to 650 MHz, usable to 750 MHz. Run 100 watts for 10 minutes, 1500 watts for 10 seconds. SWR is 1.1:1 to 30 MHz, below 1.3:1 to 650 MHz. 3x3x7 inches.

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MFJ Theory Tutor practically guarantees you'll pass the theory part of any FCC ham license exam. Versatile MFJ software is the best computer tutor ever tailor-made for ham radio. You can study the entire FCC question pool, selected areas and take (or print) sample tests. Auto. saves each study session (ex. sample tests), gives you all FCC test graphics (ex. mono.), explanations of hard questions, pop-up calculator, weighted scoring analysis, color change option and more. Order MFJ-1610-Novice; MFJ-1611-Tech; MFJ-1612-Gen.; MFJ-1613-Adv.; MFJ-1614-Ex. for IBM compatible. For Macintosh: MFJ-1630-N; MFJ-1631-T; MFJ-1632-G; MFJ-1633-A; MFJ-1634-E, \$29.95 per license class. MFJ-284 or MFJ-286 \$24.95

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MFJ's compact Speaker/Mics let you carry your HT on your belt and never have to remove it to monitor calls or talk. You get a wide range speaker and first-rate electret mic element for superb audio on both transmit and receive. Earphone jack, handy lapel/pocket clip, PTT, lightweight retractable cord. Gray. One year unconditional guarantee. MFJ-284 fits ICOM, Yaesu, Santic. MFJ-286 fits Kenwood.

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MFJ-1278 Use computer to transmit/receive in all 9 digital modes: Packet, AMTOR, ASCII, CW, RTTY, FAX, SSTV, Contest Memory Keyer and Navtex receive. Easy-Mail™ Personal Mailbox, Built-in printer port, 20 LED tuning indicator, AC power supply, Host/KISS, 32K RAM, Multi-gray level FAX/SSTV modem, CW key paddle jack and tons more. Options include 2400 baud modem (MFJ-2400, \$79.95) and software starter packs with computer cables, \$24.95 each, for IBM compatible, Commodore 64/128, Macintosh and VIC-20.

12/24 Hour LCD Clocks



\$19.95 MFJ-108B \$9.95 MFJ-107B Huge 5/8 inch bold LCD digits let you see the time from anywhere in your shack. Choose from the dual clock that has separate UTC/local time display or the single 24 hour ham clock.

Mounted in a brushed aluminum frame. Easy to set. The world's most popular ham clocks for accurate logs. MFJ-108B 4 1/2 x 1 1/2; MFJ-107B 2 1/4 x 1 1/2 in.

Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter

MFJ Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter has a new peak reading function! It shows you SWR, forward and reflected power in 2000/500 and 200/50 watt ranges. Covers 1.8-30 MHz. Mechanical zero adjusts for movement. 50-239 connectors. Lamp uses 12 VDC or 110 VAC with MFJ-1312, \$12.95.

Deluxe Code Practice Oscillator

MFJ-557 Deluxe Code Practice Oscillator has a Morse key and oscillator unit mounted together on a heavy steel base so it stays put on your table. Portable because it runs on a 9-volt battery (not included) or an AC adapter (\$12.95) that plugs into a jack on the side.

Earphone jack for private practice. Tone and Volume controls for a wide range of sound. Speaker. Key has adjustable contacts and can be hooked to your transmitter. Sturdy. 8 1/2 x 2 1/4 x 3 3/4 in.

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Steve Learns Fast

By Richard R. Regent, K9GDF
5003 South 26th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53221

Steven Kraft, Advanced Class KE9RW, of Menomonie, Wisconsin, is 18 years old. He has been licensed just over two years.

Steve, who receives W1AW ARRL bulletins on RTTY and AMTOR on his computer, notes, "I use both modes for 100 percent copy." He then reads bulletins Tuesdays on the 146.61 MHz repeater when he is Net Control to get information to Amateurs in the area. Steve smoothly handled a marathon net control session for Dunn County ARES during a severe weather disaster this past summer. Besides operating on two meters, KE9RW has a TA-33 beam up 50 feet, and works mostly 15 and 20 meters with his TS-140S. Plans are underway to put up some long wires for the lower bands later this year.

You can read Steve's column in the Badger State Smoke Signals each month, since he is the secretary of the ARRL affiliated Northern Wisconsin Radio Club. Steve helped his club, using the call K9-ZVZ, by operating SSB in their Field Day activities at Skyport Airport. Steve comments, "Unfortunately, I had some work to do and couldn't get to the Field Day site early to enjoy the delicious picnic they held before antenna and equipment setup."

Steve is a Senior at Menomonie High School who likes to study hard and read lots. Based on his grade point average and



Steve Kraft, KE9RW

- Photo by Barb Regent/N9DIJ

abilities, the faculty has selected Steve as a member of the National Honor Society. KE9RW is President of his school radio club, and assists faculty Club Trustee WB9WKO. Steve's dad laments, "Steve has instant recall in scientific areas, but this ability doesn't seem to work for English Literature." Mom is Advanced Class N9-JBN.

Steve plans to study Electrical Engineering in college and, based on his past record, should do very well. Good luck, Steve.

Hams Help During Flood

(Continued from page 5)

crisis had passed and things began to return to normal. Local operators Allen Bell, KA9PSL; Ken Teclaw, N9GXP, and Mike Hoier, KA9PSL, stayed on duty and maintained communications between the Emergency Government Communications Command Post, the Red Cross shelters, and the La Crosse Red Cross office.

The contingent of hams from Marshfield and Wisconsin Rapids, while most were not needed, was there and ready to help with communications to support the additional evacuations which would have been necessary if the dam had failed - and if that had happened, all 18 hams would have been needed - and probably more.

Communications were handled primarily on the Tomah Regional Repeater Group's 145.39 MHz system.

Those responding from Marshfield were KA6HZX, N9JZT, KB9RS, N9CLG, WBØKIN, WB9WBN, W9FYP, and WN9K.

In the Wisconsin Rapids group were K9UTQ, KE9YB, N9KAO, N9KAK, KA9-BPF, KB9GO, K9CJM, KD9QL, KA5NJA, and Wood County Emergency Coordinator WB9QXO.

- Gene Santoski, K9UTQ, contributed part of this story. Photo courtesy of Bill Bastian, N9BOE.

Amateur Radio Call Signs

Here is the list of latest call signs issued by the FCC, as of August 1, 1990:

Dist	Group A Extra	Group B Adv	Group C Gen/Tec	Group D Novice
Ø	AAØBQ	KFØLY	NØMHU	KBØHKI
1	WJ1F	KC1WI	N1HYJ	KA1WGV
2	AA2AT	KF2VI	N2LCV	KB2KZH
3	WD3B	KD3TI	N3IKM	KA3WSQ
4	AB4YA	KN4NK	N4ZZD	KC4SGJ
5	AA5UA	KI5IB	N5RDS	KB5NME
6	AA6XF	KK6OB	N6ZZZ	KC6WMQ
7	AA7FO	KG7HJ	N7PIK	KB7LMF
8	AA8BX	KF8IO	N8MUC	KB8KOJ
9	WU9G	KE9YP	N9KAC	KB9JFD
HI	-	AH6KN	NH6XH	WH6CIM
AK	-	AL7MG	NL7UQ	WL7BZG
PR	-	KP4QY	WP4YN	WP4JGT

- The ARRL Letter, 9/7/90

Northern Wisconsin Radio Club

(Continued from page 9)

include the election of our 1991 officers and a program on NTS traffic by Bob Knutson, W9BUG. The following meeting will be on November 27, and there will be no December meeting.

73, Steve Kraft, KE9RW, Secretary

Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club

Carl Searing, W9NW
Secretary
1129 McKinley Road
Eau Claire, WI. 54703

MEETING MINUTES

11 September 1990

The meeting was opened at 7:30 p.m. by President Bill Jablonske, W9NNS. The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and approved.

The recent Hamfest was discussed, with emphasis on the utilization of a larger site. Research into this will take place.

Work remains to be done to complete

the club trailer.

There was mention made of a new controller for the 31/91 repeater, and some discussion, with no resolution.

It was felt by some members that club monies be used to donate to some civic good, or perhaps toward the linking of local repeaters. We could also have larger prizes at the next hamfest.

Plans were laid to check out the tower recently donated to us. WØAIH and K9UXP will check this out. A number of volunteers showed their willingness to assist in the disassembly on a weekday.

The recent SkyWarn net was a subject of some controversy, with the need for a better method of calling up the net by local officials.

The evening's program was most ably presented by Paul Bittner, WØAIH. He showed slides of his antenna farm, with detailed explanations of his most recent antenna mount adaptations. The program was very well received.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, 9 October, 1990.

Since there was no call for volunteers for the lunch committee for the meeting, the officers will perform bring the lunch.

Respectfully submitted:

W9NW, Secretary

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Racine Megacycle Club

(Continued from page 8)

You never realize how much you leave to be disposed of until you start listing it all, and few people have any idea of what it is worth and what to do with it.

Cheryl, KS9P, our latest addition to the testing team, reported that the club had three upgrades at the last session: Art James, KB9BJN, made General; Al Marini went to Advanced, while John Powilaifes passed the Technician and is waiting for his call.

Cheryl also reported that she has four Novices at her school who are looking for help in passing the Technician exam. Her workload is such that she is looking for some help.

Dan, KA9OIL, gave a report on the last transmitter hunt, and informed us that the next one is to be 21 September 1990, again starting at Regency Mall at 6:30 p.m. Anyone interested in taking part or just riding along to take part in the fun is invited to show up. The hunt starts exactly at 7 p.m., so anyone getting there at 7:01 p.m. is not likely to find anyone. Contact Dan for any other information. The gang goes out for refreshments after the hunt.

Dan told everyone how he had borrowed a car without call letter plates, attached an antenna to the bumper, and sat in the weeds watching everyone riding around looking for call letter plates or a familiar face in a vehicle. (See photos elsewhere in this issue of Badger State Smoke Signals.)

Gene Haney, WB9ZKY, having been the first to find the transmitter last time, will be manning the transmitter this time.

A motion was made and accepted to close the meeting at 8:26.

Following the meeting, Dick Kehl, WA9HOH, who has for many years been looking for radio and television interference, gave an interesting talk on the sources and means of locating interference.

The goodie box raffle was held, resulting in WB9ZKY having the honor of taking it home for modification. Wonder if he can find anything in there that he doesn't already have?

Dits and Dahs from Around Town

By Rev. Jim McChesney, WAØPFV

WB9USI is doing more dual service with the RAP Van: public relations for alcohol education, and ham radio in the same unit.

The RAP (Racine Alcohol Patrol) Van cruises the streets late at night with specialized gear, such as the Intoxilizer. The van is well equipped, with television, camera, VCR, fire and police radios, ham radio, a Yaesu FT-480R donated by local ham operators for public service. The RAP Van sometimes serves as a command post for public service work. ARES hams can volunteer to ride in the RAP Van some night by contacting Lloyd Gorsiski, WB9-RGO.

Lloyd is being given a public service award by the Racine Police Department for all the work he and his fellow hams donate through ARES. Ask Police Chief Carl Hanson, W9UUD.

Ole Fox, K9AKG, was seen eating his free breakfast at the Heritage 2/10/90.

Perhaps the neatest and tallest tale in recent months is one from Don, W9YBA, about when he was a young soldier, doing support engineering work in Korea during

that war. Don and his men had been given some 3.5 MHz radios to call the base on the other side of some mountains, but the Koreans were all using that band, so Don's crew could not get through. Next, they found some 100 MHz radios, but those did not get through, either. One day, they noticed that when squadrons of flying box-cars (large cargo aircraft) were above the mountains, they could hear their headquarters people on the air. So, they started

(Please turn to page 16)

Correspondence

From Our Readers

BREAK ONE-O

I've thought of saying "Break One-O" this a few times on some of our bands, and most of our readers would get the drift right away, but that is not the reason I'm writing these few lines. I seriously believe we are generally overlooking a large number of prospective "Hams", namely in the field of CBers.

Just after the monthly meeting of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club, I stopped by a local Kwik Trip for my evening cup of coffee on the way to work. Two young men spotted my vehicle, with four different lengths of aeriels, and they wondered if I was really "heavy into CB or what?"

I had to honestly tell "Hoser" and "Iron Man" that I just about threw my CBs away 8-10 years ago, when the FCC threw Part 95 out the window. I'd lost interest because it could no longer be a family "hobby" at my "20", because of the disrespect and foulmouths, etc., etc. The conversation led to what CBers are doing today, and I had to admit that some of it sounded pretty good. It seems like they enjoy the radio tremendously, making new friends all the time, 250 or more just on the lower channels, around channel 3, they said. One thing they really like is "Tag," and if my questioning was correct, and if I understood their answer, they are participating in the old terminology "Ghost Hunt", or our Amateur Radio Fox Hunt.

When I told them about my radios and privileges, they seemed very interested. When I told them I had an old Royce 606 buried in my locker at work, and that I was thinking of digging it out to see if it still worked, etc., they invited me down to the "Yellow Brick Road" (one of the local parks along the Mississippi River). I told them I just might take them up on the offer, and if they heard the "Paladin KBK-6225" out there, they would know it was me.

Now, here's what this note to you Hams is all about. This (CBers) I think is an excellent source for new blood in Hamdom. Just because the FCC threw Part 95

out the window doesn't make all CBers bad. In fact, I just noted one CBers written up for his good work in "Tune in the World," printed by the ARRL. Most - or many of us - (some wouldn't admit it) used to be into CB, and some fairly heavily. But, most of us gave up that band for bigger and better things - and we "threw the baby out with the wash water."

Some hams are crying that if we don't get new blood, we'll lose certain frequencies and, as one man said, "The hobby as we know it is dying, and 20-30 years down the road, we won't even recognize it." Well, I don't believe the last thought, except for the possible plethora of appliance operators we'll have in our midst.

Just what would happen if 20-30 hams in each of our larger cities (or your club undertook the project), dusted off your old CBs sitting in your basement, garage, attic, or wherever, and started a local "net" or something of the sort. We could teach radio theory, most of it indirectly, and organize logical and "legal" Fox Hunts, have picnics and invite these young men and women to our Amateur Radio club meetings. I'm sure we'll see some results. If you gained only a few, it would be worthwhile. What counts is that you tried, you had fun and, last but not least, you were a good influence on these people.

I feel that the FCC (which also governs us; I can claim innocence, but ignorance is no excuse, voting voice, etc. RIGHT?) - has several times fallen way short of my expectations. I personally can't blame these young men (CBers) for wanting to take advantage of a fun thing. I, myself, do not wish to be involved in illegal activities, and I will chide or even try somewhat to straighten out some some things I expect to be awry - but without trying to be a "policeman" on the nightmare channel - a vigilante, even though this had crossed my mind. Other things I won't want to touch with a ten-foot pole, but what would be wrong with taking advantage of the good things that are right under our noses. The more I think about it, the more I'm convinced it's almost a duty to take the bull by the horns and run with it (pun intended). If I do, look for the "Palidin"; I think I'm going to try to look up some old friends I left behind.

- Bill Wood, KE9XQ
(formerly WB9VYI)
La Crosse, WI

Racine Megacycle Club

(Continued from page 15)

communicating via all that aluminum flying over the hills. Is that called "flying boxcar skip", or "flying boxcar antennae" - or was that an aluminum cloud, Don?

Local literalist Steve, K9ZL, is always working to hold up the English language to its proper use. For instance, Steve does not believe one should claim credit for a QSO unless it is a QSO, and not just a report exchange. Good point. Now, he is wondering how in the world the government can consider a license without the code. Well, Steve, you might look up the variant meanings of the word "license," and who has more license - not licenses - than Uncle Sam.

K9ZL also wants to know why the blimmies over there call the 3.9 MHz band

the "80 meter" band. Look up "approximate", Steve - or is that "approximate", Steve? Hi!

(BSSS Editor's Note: 40 meters is 7.5 MHz, too, not 7.0 - 7.3 MHz. Approximate, indeed.)

DIALOGUE ON HAMS AND COMPUTERS AND STUFF: While many of us are already into computers, and others will be soon, all of us will from time to time be seeking to upgrade our systems. The whole thing is maddening, for as soon as you buy a computer, five new generations of the machines seem to have been born since you purchased your machine yesterday.

One writer, Charles Bermant, in February 1990 *Computer Shopper*, said, "The most dangerous aspect of buying a PC has nothing to do with the machine itself.... it is the shadow of obsolescence that falls over every product purchased."

Imagine if we thought of people in the same way that we deal with computers and

radios. Can hams be educated for "upgradability", and, if they can, what part of the ham would be in the "upgrading processor card"? In one computer system, the basic machine was about \$4,000, and the faster processor cards with newer chips were \$3,300, \$4,500, and \$6,400, depending on the speed rating - and when did hams put value on speed? Ha. Come on in; the water's fine.

Some hams were recently discussing a medical report upon the death of the famous heart surgeon, Dr. Flemma, of Milwaukee, who was on the waiting list of heart recipients; one did not become available in time. In the USA last year, about 5,000 donors gave hearts, but the list of those needing new hearts numbered over 30,000. Will all ham radio operators please consider signing the organ donor form on the backs of their drivers' licenses? We can all be donors; please join this greatest club.

Field Day Resolutions

- * *Key didn't work in the bathroom building*
- * *There were lots of bugs in the food tent*
- * *Folding chairs settled into the ground at an angle*
- * *Bad antenna connectors created high SWR*
- * *LCD screens hard to see in the sunlight*
- * *Logs, dupe sheets, and note papers blowing in the wind*
- * *Too many conversations going on in operating tent*
- * *Too close to the city, but convenient*
- * *Too far from the city, no bathroom facilities*
- * *Electric clocks wrong because generator ran out of gas*
- * *Electric clocks wrong time because generator not 60 cycles*
- * *Operators didn't know packet procedures*
- * *Operators didn't know computer procedures when it hangs up*
- * *Controversy about computer and longhand dupe listings*
- * *Too cold at night and uncomfortable operating positions*
- * *Unfamiliar in operating and tuning transceivers*
- * *No one monitoring talk-in frequency to site*
- * *Beams got DX but not stateside contacts*
- * *Gasoline odor very strong in tent*
- * *No equipment or set-up lists; items were missing*

Radio Clubs around Wisconsin have been critiquing their Field Day efforts. Many problems caused some inconvenience. Clubs plan solutions to make next year better. At left are a few problems which have been discussed at club meetings.

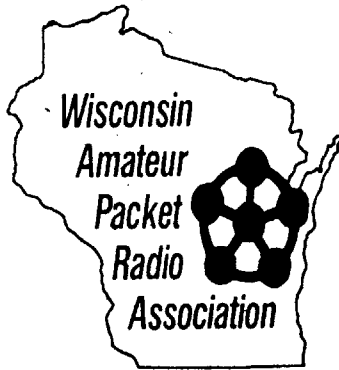
Polishinski Pushes Potent Pedal Power



We published some Field Day photos a couple of issues back, including one of the modified bicycle above; however, it was sans the rider/generator pedal pusher. Steve Polishinski, WB9YSD, pedaled out about 150 watts for five or so CW contacts at the Four Lakes ARC Field Day site. The rear wheel has weights added to produce a flywheel effect. The setup produced 120 volts AC at about 330 Hz, and was built from an article in *Ham Radio* magazine.

- Richard R. Regent, K9GDF

- Photo by Bob Aspinwall/KA9JPZ



THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association (WAPRA)

c/o Carl Schumacher, N9BYS

7740 Evergreen Terrace, Burlington, WI 53106

Steve Loeffler, WB9ZRE, Editor, 123 W. Oshkosh St., Ripon, WI 54971

Wisconsin Packeteer - October, 1990

Chairman's Report.....by Bill Jablonske - W9NNS

This is my first newsletter as chair of this association; and it is good news! The officers met in Stevens Point for a few hours on September 1, 1990 and were joined by Tom Young, KD9FC from Hayward. Our total focus was on developing a high speed network which will link ALL the nodes in Wisconsin within the next 12 months. And we have a plan that we will begin to test by the end of September.

Here is what we think is true:

1. Packet isn't much fun if you can't talk to someone.
2. Most people outside of the metro areas cannot get connected because they don't have access to a network.
3. If we all pull together (and give up some of our own personal turf) we can have a major high speed network accessible to all Wisconsin nodes by next summer. The the plans are already under way.
4. There are MANY nodes running. Very few PATHS exist. We need cooperation among those who want this network to happen.
5. We also need equipment. If you have hardline, two meter transceivers, TNC, high gain verticals or power supplies you will donate for a specific site we need to hear from you NOW. No equipment will be accepted except for a specific location so that you become a sponsor for a site.

So here is the good news I can share at this time.

1. A new node is on the air in Spooner as WISPN:KE6WF-1.
2. A new node will be running in Rice Lake as WIRIE:N9FHH-1. This is, like Eau Claire WIEAU:WOAIIH-1, a supernode; WIRIE will be running 100 watts to Motorola equipment at 1500 feet MSL...about 500 feet above average terrain to a G7 Hustler into a preamplified receiver. Watch this one!
3. A test site will go on the air about September 23 from Meteor Hills at a location near the intersection of Wis. 48 and county

C. It will run 160 watts preamplified to a Ringo Ranger...because that is all we have right now. Preliminary tests by KD9FC and W9NNS indicate a normal capture of WIAIT, WIHYR, WISPN, WIBFD, MNDUL, WINFR, WISTE, WIAUW, WIEAU and MNRST. A longer test will give us more accurate information to plan with.

4. When we are sure of the path, we will then build a high speed link from Meteor Hills to Stevens Point and from Stevens Point to the Milwaukee metro area probably using HAPN modems at 4800 baud.

We have also recieved permission to put nodes at some other high profile sites. The success of this effort very much depends on how much equipment we can get our hands on before it gets too cold to work outdoors and on towers.

Finally, recent discussions with Chris Elmquist, NOJCF, in Minneapolis indicate that they will be dedicating a beam full-time to linking to Eau Claire. We will report on this next issue. Baldwin is also ready to put WIBALD:W9AVX-1 on the air and this should provide a solid link to the Twin Cities....if no interference to their voice repeater develops.

I hope you can see that some very great effort is being put into this....and I hope you will give me a call and get on the bandwagon...or at least join the parade.

Please call soon! Bill Jablonske - W9NNS
810 Pearl St.
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
715-723-4088

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Disaster dill Scheduled for October 13.....WB9SMM

This will bring you up to date on the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) drill scheduled for October 13, 1990 and the preparations now underway in the Milwaukee/Waukesha ARES for the drill and for the long term.

The scenario of the NDMS drill is a earthquake in the New Madrid Fault (near the southern border of Illinois -- last heard from in the early 1800's when the Mississippi ran backwards and church bells rang in Philadelphia). Several thousand casualties are assumed. Local resources are overwhelmed. The NDMS is called on to airlift patients to cities and facilities outside the disaster area which have the

capability to handle the victims. Milwaukee and Chicago are a part of the NDMS plan -- Chicago has been written out of the drill for reasons which I don't fully understand; suffice it to say that no victims will be going to Chicago. Nevertheless, the nerve-center/control-point for the Milwaukee-Chicago area is a the Navy Hospital located at or very near the Great Lakes Naval Training Center just north of Chicago. They are the "FCC" -- "Federal Control Center" (I know....don't worry about it). The FCC has overall control in an NDMS situation, will want regular reports, and will, in turn, be reporting to the Pentagon. Perhaps I should backtrack and explain that the NDMS is, in large part, a military operation with civilian input and contribution. One possible use of such a system is the rapid treatment of casualties incurred in a conventional war overseas. Much (but by no means all) of the medical airlift capability is military, and it is MAC planes which are presumed to be transporting the victims in our drill scenario. This also explains why the drill will be hosted at the 440th's facilities at Mitchell Field.

The NDMS plans call for advance warning of at least 24 hours. Once planes start arriving, they will arrive at one-half hour intervals until the area's capacity for victims is reached. Each plane carries about 50 victims. Given the current Mideast situation, no planes will actually arrive at Mitchell. It may be possible to park a plane in the vicinity for realism, however. The "victims" will be US Navy recruits from Great Lakes. As many as 300 will be bused up to arrive at about 8:00am at the 440th. The next two hours will be spent putting on "moulages". These are very realistic plastic devices (and makeup) which simulates the particular injury. The victim is also given instructions in how he/she is to act to make it realistic in light of the injury. Thus a victim with a broken arm could conceivably walk to the ambulance or (more likely) bus while a broken leg victim will require a stretcher. (If you get a chance, look for the gut wound victims -- very realistic!) Next the victims will be fed out onto the tarmac and then into the "triage" area for sorting and transport to the hospital. "Triage" is the sorting activity (by doctors) to determine the severity of the injury and the consequent priority of treatment. Triage tags are attached to each victim. Each tag bears a color and two letters (written in during triage) which identify the priority level and the general type of injury. The colors are: Red (Immediate attention required); Yellow (OK for the moment, but will need to be taken care of soon); and Green (walking wounded). Also there is Black for

which the meaning is obvious. Note that a victim's tag color can change, e.g. from yellow to red as complications set in. The categories are:

MM - Medicine	SC - Spine
MP - Psychology	SB - Burns
SS - Surgery	MC - Pediatrics
S) - Orthopedics	SG - Obstetrics

Triage will commence at 10:00am with victims being transported as soon as possible thereafter. While it is totally unrealistic, practical considerations require that victims be sent to the hospitals which are farthest away first so that there will be sufficient time to get them to the hospital and back before it is time to send the buses back to Great Lakes. This drill is also a test and exercise of the hospitals' ability to receive and treat emergency victims, so the hospitals are concerned that the drill works well. My count indicates 21 hospitals involved at this point. The farthest away is Kenosha and Racine. Oconomowoc Memorial is also involved, but they will generate their own victims, etc. and will not be otherwise involved with the victims coming out of the 440th.

All victims will be returned to the 440th by 1:00 pm for transport back to Great Lakes. Some hospitals will supply transportation back to the 440th. Emergency Government will have to supply transport for the rest (probably Milwaukee County Transit buses).

Our task will be to supply a system which tracks the victims from the triage stage all the way through to their return to the 440th. We will use packet radio for this. The keystone will be the program "ARESDATA" written by WN6I and N6KL. It has been running on a Tandy 1000SX in my office for several weeks now. We started with version 1.1 and are now running version 1.2. Perhaps as a result of a letter I am sending to N6KL, we may have v 1.3 before October 13.

I won't get into the details of ARESDATA here because you can read about it from the documentation which is downloadable from the system or by mail (with a 9x11 SASE with 65 cents postage) from me. To access the system, connect with WIMKE and then to WB9SMM-5. You will get a very short welcome message and a right pointing arrow prompt. Type a ? for a very short list of instructions. Type DIR to get a directory of the files available for downloading, then type "GET" and the filename to download the user manual, etc.

Incidentally, the node "WIMKE" is a new feature set up for experimental purposes and to support the 10/13 drill. It is funded by the

Milwaukee/Waukesha ARES through its corporation (AREC, Inc). Hopefully another node on 440 will be playing from the same site by 10/13. If so, it will then be possible (using new DED firmware in the TNCs) to have eight simultaneous connects on each band. I also have the code for 16 connect firmware, but since it hasn't been tried with this program, I am reluctant to try it.

At the NDMS planning meeting held on August 22, several hospitals expressed interest (or, at least, no objection) to finding space for a packet terminal at their facility during the drill. While we can't connect all of the hospitals, I would like to connect as many as possible and handle the rest by voice. I will also need stations for the triage area, Paramedic Base, Emergency Government and possibly Red Cross. All of this requires at least semi-portability. Most sites will have AC, but it won't do to have to lug in 500 pounds of gear. Voice HTs will also be necessary. If you can work 440 (446.275) AND if we can get the 440 node playing in time, you will be able to avoid the collisions on '09. (For the long term, you should be looking for 440 gear for ARES packet since that is where the ARES packet activity will be.)

My tentative plan is this:

Get the 440 node going so we can support 16 connects --8 on '09 and 8 on 440.

If time permits (which I doubt) try the 16 connect DED firmware.

If the trailer is available, use it at the Triage site.

Set up voice channel from the trailer to the Lakeshore repeater (beam); also, voice channel for local loop on '67; packet to ARESDATA will be on 440 (beam).

Packet stations at Emergency Government and Paramedic Base (also at Red Cross, if appropriate) on '09 or 440 depending on the equipment available to the person assigned.

One or two "at home" packet stations to take voice transmissions from hospitals which are not assigned packet operator (probably on '09).

Check with and get leadership approval from one or two local wide-area repeaters to use their freq for the operation so as to avoid congestion on '67.

Ask local BBs operators and non-involved packeteers to curtail '09 BBS operations for the duration of the operation (8:00 am to approx 2:00 pm) to avoid collisions with ARESDATA packets.

On day of drill, load in victim data ASAP after it becomes available at triage site. Then record victim departure from triage site and name of hospital assigned. Hospital operator records

arrival at hospital and departure. Triage site records return to 440th.

More to come. Please sign up by leaving a message on my mailbox (we will need plenty of via WIGTN) for updates. Also, log on to WB9SMM-5 via WIMKE to get to know it so you will be familiar with the system.

CAPRA Forum Invitation.....

CAPRA (Chicago Area Packet Radio Association) is bringing to the Chicago area and the Midwest the first seminar of it's kind by a major packet equipment manufacturer. CAPRA is sponsoring a day-long series of seminars by Kantronics on Sunday, October 28th starting with registration at 8:30 AM. It will be at Harper College, Palatine, IL which is conveniently located near the Northwest Tollway (I-90) & Rte. 53 / I-290. This makes it easy for you to reach the seminar from N.W. Indiana & S.E./S.C. Wisconsin from the Tri-State Tollway(I-294) which connect with I-90 & I-290. *

The seminars will cover everything from "Beginning Packet" to "Advanced Packet" and Kantronics' new products. There will be FOUR DOOR PRIZES including the DVR2-2, KAM, & Data Engine. This will be an excellent opportunity for you to talk directly with Kantronics engineers and management.

CAPRA will be sending out more details as they become available, but remember it IS CAPRA that is making this possible. CAPRA needs your assistance in making this a success by attending.

If you don't live in the Chicago area we don't expect you to join CAPRA as a Full-Member for \$20, but you can join as a non-voting Associate Member for only \$10. You will receive the newsletter every two months. In addition, CAPRA sponsors seminars at local hamfests and is involved in building the network system that moves BBS mail in and out of the Chicago area / Midwest.

To join CAPRA, send your membership dues with your name, callsign, & address to:

CAPRA
P.O. Box 8251
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

is doing a lot of things to advance packet radio, such as better networking and sponsoring things like the upcoming Kantronics seminar. Remember these kinds of things won't continue to occur without your support and assistance.

See you at the Kantronics seminar in October!!

Mark - WB9QZB @ KB9DIP.IL:USA.NA

Silent Keys

Roy Bushland, W9GIT

Roy W. Bushland, W9GIT, 86, of Chippewa Falls, WI, died August 27.

Roy had owned and operated Bushland Radio Specialties in Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls since 1930, and was one of the founders of Chippewa Falls radio station WCFW. Originally licensed as W9DCX, Roy had been a ham operator for more than 60 years. He had been a Signal School instruc-

tor in Ashland, WI, for a year, at Northwest Airlines for a year, and also for a year for Western Electric. He was a charter member of the Northern Wisconsin Radio Club, and was a past vice president of the National Electronic Distributor's Association/Service Dealer Division.

He was preceded in death by his wife in 1980, his parents, three brothers, and five sisters, and is survived by one son, Roland, of Chippewa Falls, and a daughter, Diane Fellenz, of Long Island, N.Y., and five grandchildren.

Burial was in Forest Hill Cemetery, Chippewa Falls.

TAYLOR COUNTY AREA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Rolland Walty, W9LEE
Secretary
W. 4117 Hwy. 102
Westboro, WI 54490

At press time (September 24), no information for publication had been received from the Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club.

Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club



**K90DK
WB9FDZ**

**Art Kleefisch, W9WSS
Secretary
1014 5th Street
Baraboo, WI. 53913**

The next meeting of the YTARC will be held Tuesday, October 16th, in room 12 of the Baraboo Civic Center. The meeting will start at 7:30 PM.

YTARC September 13th meeting.

There was no official business meeting of the YTARC due to lack of a quorum.

The following members and guest were present:

Duane Grotophorst, KA9HKL	Logenville
Ken Johnson, K9DZG	Mazomanie
Harold Reif, KA9YQP	Baraboo
Art Kleefisch, W9WSS	Baraboo
Bill Klinkner	Sauk City
Jim Pugh, W3VZJ	Sauk City

The list of hams in the area who said they would help with emergency communications is growing. Almost all individuals contacted said that they could help in some way. LJ, WB9TFJ, has sent me his list of ham operators in this area who can be contacted.

The Baraboo Area Technical Society (BATS) October meeting will be held at the Industrial Coils, Inc. plant at 203 East Street at 7:00 PM. (My employer for 35 years). Some of us will be there for this meeting and all are welcome. A tour of the plant will follow a short meeting.

A joint meeting with BATS is a possibility at some future date. Some of their members may be interested in the HAM hobby.

Jim Pugh, W3VZJ is interested in joining our club.

Art Kleefisch, Secretary

YTARC BIRTHDAZE

Paul Amend KA90BP October 10

SENTENCE SERMON

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WANTED: Model DG-5 Digital Display for Kenwood 520. Contact Carl Lassanske, N9JXB, Rte. 3, Box 449, Wautoma, WI 54982. (414) 787-4978

WANTED/TRADE. Trade outboard motos, 10 and 15 h.p. for late model ham gear, such as TS-130V/SE, FT960II, TH-26AT, TS-680. Dave Witt, 9145 Ivy Lane Berlin, WI 54923. (414) 685-5018

WANTED: TR4/C transceiver, mobile antenna impedance matcher. Milard Christianson, WU9L, (414) 743-1310.

FOR SALE: Ancient Helicopter. Amazing toy flies on its own power! Plans \$1.00 ppd. Dr. Tom King, WF9I, 4817 Sierra Dr., Eau Claire, WI 54701.

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WANTED: Old or unusual telegraph keys and bugs. Contact Jerry Scherkenbach at call book address, telephone (414) 481-8831 or Packet radio N9AW @ WB9TYT.

WANTED: Old Ham Gear. Transmitters and receivers. Collins, Johnson, etc. Also good homebrew units. N9IER, Scott. (414) 246-8765.

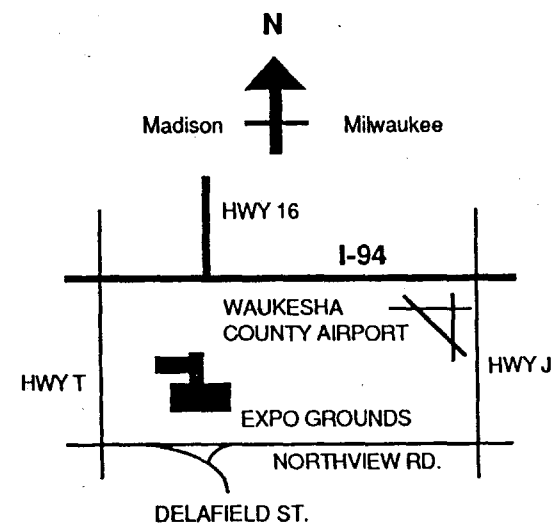
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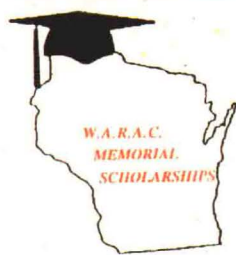
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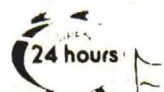
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